

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 00938 270740Z

17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01

SAJ-01 NIC-01 /082 W

----- 047172

R 260306Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2185

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 0938

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,ELAB, FI, VS

SUBJECT: FINNISH LABOR SUPPORT FOR "PRG"

1. LE VAN MAI, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE VIETNAMESE TRANSPORT WORKERS

--

CVT AND AN AFFILIATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION

SENT A LETTER TO LASSE SYRJANEN, CHAIRMAN, FINNISH LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS

UNION; MARTTI VEIRTO, CHAIRMAN, ROAD TRANSPORT AND ALLIED WORKERS'UNION;

OLAVI KEITELE, CHAIRMAN, FINNISH SEAMAN'S UNION; AND UNTO KEIJONEN,
CHAIRMAN, RAILWAYMEN'S UNION. THE LETTERS WERE MAILED JANUARY 23, 1975

AND CONTAINED THE SAME TEXT AND WERE WRITTEN IN ENGLISH. TEXT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT UNIONS IN FINLAND HAVE SUPPORTED THE
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 00938 270740Z

CREATION OF A "PRG" INFORMATION CENTER IN YOUR CAPITAL CITY OF HELSINKI.

AS ONE DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION LEADER TO ANOTHER AND AS AN AFFILIATE OF

THE FREE AND DEMOCRATIC INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT FEDERATION TRADE SECRETARIAT, I MUST ASK THAT YOU USE WHATEVER INFLUENCE YOU MAY HAVE WITH YOUR CONFEDERATION OF LABOR AND YOUR GOVERNMENT TO PERSUADE THEM TO RECONSIDER THEIR DECISION. THE SO-CALLED "PRG" IS NOT A GOVERNMENT AND NEVER HAS BEEN A GOVERNMENT. THE "PRG" IS NOTHING MORE THAN THE SOUTHERN BRANCH OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST PARTY.

THE COMMUNISTS HAVE KILLED OR ABDUCTED OVER TWO HUNDRED TRADE UNION LEADERS IN SOUTH VIETNAM. THE MOST RECENT VIOLATION OF THE PARIS

AGREEMENT WAS THE SLAUGHTER THIS MONTH IN THE PROVINCE OF PHUOC LONG OF TWO MORE UNION LEADERS AND THOUSANDS OF RUBBER PLANTATION WORKERS, AND MANY MORE THOUSANDS WERE MADE HOMELESS REFUGEES.

THE COMMUNISTS HAVE DESTROYED OUR RAILROADS AND THOUSANDS OF TRUCKS AND BUSES, KILLING OUR MEMBERS AND CADRE AND MAKING THOUSANDS JOBLESS. THE TRANSPORT WORKERS OF VIETNAM APPEAL TO THE WELL-KNOWN DEMOCRATIC INSTINCTS OF YOUR UNION TO REJECT THE ILLEGAL, ANTI-DEMOCRATIC

"PRG" EFFORTS TO DECEIVE THE PEOPLE OF FINLAND. THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM WANT PEACE BUT THEY WANT PEACE WITH FREEDOM FROM THE COMMUNISTS' DESTRUCTION OF PERSONAL LIBERTY--JUST LIKE THE PEOPLE OF FINLAND. END QUOTE

2. MISSION WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY FEEDBACK YOU CAN PROVIDE.

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